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La Porte - Bayshore Chamber of Commerce

RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LA PORTE-BAYSHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WHEREAS, the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic and diverse organization that leads the promotion of business, economic development and support of the La Porte-Bayshore community; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston region is home to the largest and most important concentration of petroleum refining and petrochemical processing plants in the United States, and the Port of Houston is the second busiest port in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the region is hit by a major hurricane about every 15 years, and the Perryman Report estimates that a "Katrina-like" storm would cause aggregate losses to the Texas economy of \$73 billion in gross product, \$61.3 billion in income and 863,000 jobs while causing enormous damage to the economy of the United States; and

WHEREAS, storm surge entering Galveston Bay as a result of a hurricane or other significant storm event tends to increase in height as it moves further up into the Bay and the Houston Ship Channel, endangering human life, destroying property, and damaging ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, a coastal barrier system, using manmade sand dunes along the length of the coast connecting to the existing Galveston Seawall as well as large moveable flood gates, is essential to protect the citizens, industries, and communities in the Houston-Galveston region and to preserve the region's coastal ecosystem; and

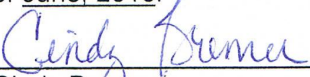
WHEREAS, such a storm surge suppression system currently under serious study is termed the "Ike Dike concept," a name derived from Hurricane Ike, which made landfall in Galveston, Texas on September 13, 2008, and developed by Dr. Bill Merrell of Texas A&M University at Galveston; and

WHEREAS, this concept is directly modeled from other technologies successfully installed around the world – including in Rotterdam, the Netherlands; St. Petersburg, Russia; along the Thames River in London; and in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the "Ike Dike concept" coastal spine suppression system is technically feasible, economically sound, environmentally friendly and socially just;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce does hereby fully support the continued development of a storm surge suppression system, such as the "Ike Dike concept," which would provide comprehensive protection to the citizens, industries, communities, and associated infrastructure in the Houston-Galveston area.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce on the 15th day of June, 2016.


Cindy Bremer
2016 Chairman of the Board

Colleen Hicks
President